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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

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COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE AND RELATED AGENCIES  
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March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Chairwoman  
House Appropriations Committee  
H-307, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20015

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
H-405, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 2051

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the **Leveraging Neighborhood Equity Enhancement Deployment** project in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the **City of Baltimore**, located at 417 E. Fayette Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202.

The funds will be used to target investment in sidewalk reconstruction combined with curb ramp reconstruction. This investment will provide comprehensive mobility pathways along selected corridor segments. The priority is to improve mobility and access in equity zones, and across historically under invested communities. Secondly this project begins to address the overall number of sidewalks obstructed by street tree heaving and damage. Partnering with the City's utility providers and economic development community, this project is aimed to strategically remove and/or relocate foundations obstructing sidewalks. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because approximately 30 percent of households in Baltimore City do not have access to a car, according to the most recent data from the American Community Survey. Baltimore City has an estimated mobility disability population of approximately 50,000 according to the 2017 American Community Survey. Residents who rely on other modes of transportation other than a single-occupancy vehicle including walking, motorized chairs and scooters, transit, and ride share need access to food distribution, health care, and other services to bridge the accessibility gaps in transportation and housing. A major barrier is lack of accessible sidewalks and curb ramps which have a direct effect on the quality of life and full participation in City services and programs.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with 23 USC 133(b) (Surface Transportation Block Grant Program).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger  
Member of Congress

CADR:lrb